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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C12N11/00 C12N C12N9/02 C12N9/34 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C12N Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, CHEM ABS Data, BIOSIS, EMBASE, PAJ, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT. Category 9 Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. χ WO 99/12959 A (VISURI KALEVI J ; UOTILA 1 - 22SINIKKA S (FI); GOVARDHAM CHANDRIKA P (US); M) 18 March 1999 (1999-03-18) examples 1-4 χ WO 92/02617 A (VERTEX PHARMA) 1 - 2220 February 1992 (1992-02-20) examples 1-7; tables 1-5 & US 5 849 296 A (NAVIA MANUEL A ET AL) 15 December 1998 (1998-12-15) χ US 5 932 212 A (KHALAF NAZER K) 1 - 223 August 1999 (1999-08-03) examples 1-10 & US 6 042 824 A (KHALAF NAZER K) 28 March 2000 (2000-03-28) [X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: 'T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cled to understand the principle or theory underlying the 'A' document defining the general state of the lart which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention 'E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is clied to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention. cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 20 September 2004 06/10/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Petri, B Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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